

**Remarks**

In the Office Actions dated October 5, 2007 and January 22, 2008, the Examiner required an election of one species from the following:

- Embodiment I as shown in Figure 28;
- Embodiment II as shown in Figure 29;
- Embodiment III as shown in Figure 30;
- Embodiment IV as shown in Figure 31; or
- Embodiment V as shown in Figure 32.

Applicant elects Embodiment II as shown in Figure 29. Claims 1, 3-6, 9, 19 and 22 and new claims 29-30 claim the subject matter shown in Embodiment II.

The Examiner asserts that "claims 1 and 19 are generic to a plurality of species, but not all." Claims 1 and 19 are generic to Embodiments I, II, III, and V. Because generic claims 1 and 19 are present in the application, Applicant will be entitled to consideration of any of these withdrawn species upon allowance of generic claims 1 and 19. Currently, claims 2, 7, 8, 20, 21, 23-28 are withdrawn. Upon the allowance of claims 1 and 19, Applicant requests reconsideration of claims 2, 7, 8, 20, and 21.

Claims 29-30 have been added. Claim 29 recites the taper portion of the guidewire and the taper defined by the coating define generally equal slopes. Paragraph [0087] and Figure 29 disclose the subject matter of claim 29 and therefore no new matter is added. Claim 30 includes subject matter similar to claim 3 and subject matter similar to newly added claim 29, which is likewise disclosed in Paragraph [0087] and Figure 29. Therefore no new matter is added.

Applicant respectfully submits that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance and seeks early allowance thereof. If for any reason, the Examiner is unable to allow the application in the next Office Action and believes that an interview would be helpful to resolve any remaining issues, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at (312) 245-5390.

Respectfully submitted,

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